

City Council Staff Report

January 20, 2016

Applicant: Mapleton City

Location: City Wide

Prepared by: Sean Conroy,
Community Development
Director

Public Hearing: No

Zone: All

Attachments:

1. Vision Statement.

REQUEST

A discussion item regarding the City's Vision Statement.

BACKGROUND AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 1994, the City completed a survey of residents which resulted in the formation of the Mapleton City Vision Statement (see attachment "1"). More than 700 surveys were collected and tabulated by volunteers to help determine the preferred direction for future development in the City. The Vision Statement has not been updated since its original adoption.

On March 18, 2015 the City Council discussed the Vision Statement and whether it should be updated. The Council discussed the idea of developing a community survey that would help to inform the Council about the community's ideas for the City. The Council also asked staff to review vision statements from other communities (see attachment "2").

In October, the City conducted the MyMapleton survey and on December 2, 2015 the Council reviewed the results of the survey. Based on the results, the Council should now review the existing Vision Statement and determine if changes should be made.

EVALUATION

Vision Statement: The first portion of the existing Vision Statement states the following:

"We are a unique community retaining a peaceful, country atmosphere through rural master planning.

- *We are citizens who participate in deciding matters that affect us, help our neighbors, and, when necessary, subordinate self-interests for the good of all.*
- *Preserve the beauty of our community and surroundings.*
- *Promote family values and community effort in order to maintain safe and friendly neighborhoods.*
- *Have well-planned, accessible, open areas.*
- *Encourage economic development as it harmonizes with our community lifestyle.*

Because we hold true to these principles, our community offers a quality lifestyle for a family environment. In summary, we have controlled growth with community input."

In staff's opinion, the most recent survey results are fairly consistent with the first portion of the Vision Statement.

The second portion of the current Vision Statement reads as follows:

“We Encourage:

- *Family-oriented activities and facilities.*
- *Clean air and water.*
- *Preserving and planting trees.*
- *Gross density planning.*
- *Preserving animal rights.*
- *Pooling and sharing resources, facilities, and ideas with other communities.*
- *Maintaining our own police, fire, and emergency services.*
- *Aesthetic building and style codes for industrial and commercial areas.*
- *A general vote on issues with city-wide impact.*
- *Volunteerism.*
- *Preserving the beauty of Maple Mountain.*
- *Agriculture, parks, green spaces, trails and paths to accommodate walking, horseback riding and bicycling.*

We Discourage:

- *Growth at the cost of: open space, neighborhood privacy, health and safety, and ability to provide service.*
- *Dense road grids.*
- *High density housing.*
- *Development on the mountainsides.”*

For the most part, it appears that the recent survey results are also consistent with the second portion of the Vision Statement. However, there could be some debate whether some items should either be added or removed from this section. The “*We Encourage*” and “*We Discourage*” lists are not exhaustive. One possible option would be to remove this section from the Vision Statement completely. Many of the items listed are still important community aspirations but could be better identified and addressed in the goals and policies of the General Plan.

General Plan Process: Once direction on the Vision Statement has been provided, staff will draft updates to the Land Use Element of the General Plan as well as the Land Use Map. These will be reviewed by the Planning Commission and then presented for approval to the City Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Provide direction on the City's Vision Statement.

Attachment “1” Mapleton Vision Statement

We are a unique community retaining a peaceful, country atmosphere through rural master planning.

- We are citizens who participate in deciding matters that affect us, help our neighbors, and, when necessary, subordinate self-interests for the good of all.
- Preserve the beauty of our community and surroundings.
- Promote family values and community effort in order to maintain safe and friendly neighborhoods.
- Have well-planned, accessible, open areas.
- Encourage economic development as it harmonizes with our community lifestyle.

Because we hold true to these principles, our community offers a quality lifestyle for a family environment. In summary, we have controlled growth with community input.

We Encourage:

- Family-oriented activities and facilities.
- Clean air and water.
- Preserving and planting trees.
- Gross density planning.
- Preserving animal rights.
- Pooling and sharing resources, facilities, and ideas with other communities.
- Maintaining our own police, fire, and emergency services.
- Aesthetic building and style codes for industrial and commercial areas.
- A general vote on issues with city-wide impact.
- Volunteerism.
- Preserving the beauty of Maple Mountain.
- Agriculture, parks, green spaces, trails and paths to accommodate walking, horseback riding and bicycling.

We Discourage:

- Growth at the cost of: open space, neighborhood privacy, health and safety, and ability to provide service.
- Dense road grids.
- High density housing.
- Development on the mountainsides.

Attachment “2”
Sample Vision Statements from other Communities

Provo

Provo – an inspiring place to live, learn, work, and play

We value:

- Faith, respect, and service to each other and our community
- Individual responsibility
- Families and individuals
- Our environment and natural amenities

We support:

- Safe, desirable neighborhoods
- A vibrant economy and high-quality jobs
- Fiscally responsible governance
- Life-long education

Highland City:

Highland City is a “bedroom community” with large residential lots, single-family homes, natural areas, and open space. This pattern is the result of conscious decision-making. To a large degree the original pattern of the community has been set, and the opportunity for significant change is limited. This is particularly true as the community rapidly approaches build out. As the General Plan is updated, the original vision for the community needs to be confirmed to ensure the ideal is met as the community matures.

Highland City is envisioned to be a community that is in harmony with its natural setting. It is a place grounded in its rural heritage, and should continue to foster a positive community spirit and a sense of neighborliness. Highland City is also envisioned to be a place of enduring character that is integrated with its rural open spaces and natural surroundings, where opportunities for enjoying the outdoors are abundant and supported, and where participating in work and community activities can be experienced by all of its citizens.

The interface between residential neighborhoods, open space, roads and other features is of particular importance, and should be given special scrutiny as the City continues to evolve. In particular, adjustments should be considered that ensure adequate opportunities exist to meet the diverse housing and land use requirements of the community.

The vision for Highland City transcends the boundaries of the community, incorporating and embracing its neighboring communities. Cooperation is a cornerstone of the City, a characteristic that is on par with its scenic setting, which is highly valued. It is the responsibility of Highland City’s citizens to preserve and protect the qualities that make the community special, and to reach out to its neighbors to ensure that shared resources and values are preserved for all.

Alpine

Alpine City highly values its history and reputation as a great place to live and raise a family. Preserving the family oriented, small-town atmosphere is of utmost importance to the residents, business owners, and City officials of Alpine. Citizens have chosen to live in Alpine for a variety of reasons, with an overwhelming majority doing so because of the small-town, rural feel of the City and the stunning beauty of the surrounding mountains. The primary focus of Alpine City is to preserve and maintain these characteristics and its high quality of life.

Salem

To provide a well-planned, clean, safe, livable community which follows the City's theme of: 'Modern Living in a Rural Setting'.

Santaquin

To provide a small-town atmosphere with well-planned and organized growth, a family oriented, clean, fun and friendly community that is a great place to live, a crossroads for southern Utah County characterized by its agricultural heritage, good parks and recreation facilities and a strong business tax base.